

students are taught by alternative route teachers-in-training who are deemed "highly qualified" pursuant to 34 CFR 200.56(a)(2)(ii): students with disabilities; English learners; students in rural areas; and students from low-income families.

34 CFR 200.56(a)(2)(ii) is the regulation that allows individuals participating in alternative route programs but who have not yet completed their full state certification to be labeled "highly qualified." This regulation was struck down by the Ninth Circuit in the *Renee v. Duncan* lawsuit but written into statute in the December 2010 CR.

To produce the report required by this legislation, states and LEAs will be required to compile the data that they are already required to have under Section 1111(h)(6)(A) of NCLB regarding the professional qualifications of all their teachers, including: whether the teacher has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction; whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; and the baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.

This data will provide essential information to parents, to educators and to policy makers so that informed decisions can be made to strengthen one of our Nation's most valuable assets, our public schools. We will be in a much better position to look at our neediest students and our neediest rural and urban school districts and determine the extent to which well-prepared teachers are or are not equitably distributed. Mr. Speaker, we look forward to receiving this important report from the Secretary on December 31, 2013.

DEDICATION OF WAR MEMORIAL

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2012

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, on October 13, I attended an event in Leesburg, Virginia dedicating a war memorial to four soldiers who gave their lives in service to their country.

The event would not have been possible without the valuable contributions of event organizer Ben Lawrence, Boy Scout Troop 1910 in Lucketts, Virginia, the Parkview High School Band, the 116th Infantry Brigade of the Virginia Army National Guard, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1177, American Legion Post 34, the Loudoun County Sheriff's office, and Scott Warner, owner of the Downtown Salon.

I have included the full remarks from Colonel John Epperly, commander of the 116th Infantry Brigade, that properly honors the soldiers and Marine honored on the memorial.

Colonel EPPERLY: Congressman Wolf, General Mills, Admiral Kemp, General Forsythe, Honorable Members of the Virginia Legislature, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors, the Leesburg Town Council, Distinguished Guests and most importantly, families of our Fallen Warriors...Good Morning. On Behalf of the Virginia Army National Guard and the 116th Infantry Brigade Com-

bat Team, it is a profound honor to be with you on this crisp autumn morning in Northern Virginia to pay tribute to our brothers in arms. Loudoun County, Leesburg and the surrounding towns and hamlets have provided Warriors for the defense of the Commonwealth and Nation since the dawn of our Republic.

My own regiment was formed not far from here in 1742 to defend what was then the frontier of the Americas. Since then, men and women from towns like Leesburg, Reston, Purcellville, Sterling, Lovettsville and many more have served in every battle and campaign our nation has fought in. Our generation is no different and today we gather to honor the sacrifice of four extraordinary men who gave the last full measure of devotion in defense of our nation. I'd like to take a moment to introduce you to these men of uncommon valor.

Army Sergeant Scott L. Kirkpatrick fell while serving with the 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment in the 2nd Brigade Combat Team of the 3rd Infantry Division. Sergeant Kirkpatrick and his fire team were assaulting a sniper position in Arab Jabour, Iraq when he was lost. Scott was doing what Infantry NCOs do best. He was leading his men from the front in one of the most dangerous places in Iraq. But who was he? Well Sergeant Kirkpatrick was many things. He was a poet, a writer and a leader of men. Indeed, Sergeant Kirkpatrick was a Renaissance Man who felt strongly that his country needed him after the 9-11 attacks. When he fell, he was on his second combat tour in Iraq and he had already become what many aspire to be in this life. Sergeant Kirkpatrick, the Warrior Poet, had earned the undying respect of his fellow warriors, the gratitude of his community and the love of his family. Today we honor a life well lived. Sergeant Kirkpatrick's decorations include the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

Army Specialist Stephan L. Mace fell while serving with the 3rd Squadron, 61st Cavalry Regiment in the 4th Brigade Combat Team of the 4th Infantry Division. Specialist Mace and his platoon were fighting a savage defensive action to hold Combat Outpost Bostick in Kamdesh, Afghanistan when he was lost. Stephan's outpost was attacked by over 200 Taliban fighters and his unit was seriously outnumbered in what would be one of the fiercest actions of the Afghan Campaign. According to his company commander, Specialist Mace fought valiantly from an exposed position with no regard for his own life. Stephan would earn the Bronze Star for gallantry in action that day. Who was this gallant Virginian? Stephan was a multi-sport athlete. He played Football, Basketball, Baseball and he loved Motor-Cross racing. He was a history buff and no doubt had an acute understanding of his difficult mission in the mountains of Afghanistan. Today we honor his courage in a land so far from his Virginia home. Specialist Mace's decorations include the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart and the Combat Action Badge.

Army Specialist Douglas J. Green fell while serving with the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment in the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team of the 25th Infantry Division. Specialist Green and his platoon were engaged by Taliban forces with small arms fire and IEDs in Sperwan Ghar of Afghanistan's Kandahar Province when he was lost. Specialist Green was on his second combat tour, with his first being in Iraq. In the cold and rugged mountains of Afghanistan, Doug was known for his warmth and the gift of bringing humor and hope to his brother infantrymen even in the toughest of times. Doug was one of those truly inspirational people who could raise the spirits and fortunes of others

through the strength of his personality and positive attitude. He is remembered for his selflessness and care for others. Indeed, while stationed in Alaska he volunteered many hours of his time with Big Brothers and Big Sisters. There can be no doubt that his selflessness and courage were on full display in Kandahar as well. Today we honor a hero with a unique gift to lift the spirits of those around him regardless of the circumstances. Specialist Green's decorations include the Bronze Star with V Device for Valor, the Purple Heart and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

Marine Captain Michael M. Quin fell while serving with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 469 of the 3rd Marine Air Wing. Captain Quin, a UH-1 Yankee Pilot was flying a combat training mission in Yuma, Arizona one month prior to an upcoming deployment to Afghanistan when he was lost in a helicopter crash. Captain Quin was a 2006 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. His loss reminds us of the risks our warriors take in training before they reach the combat zones they are destined for. Captain Quin lived life with a zest few can muster. He was a notable athlete playing soccer as well as track and field. His was also a life of service rarely seen. Michael became an Eagle Scout with Troop 29 and the Gazebo he built for his Eagle Project still stands today at Arndt's Lutheran Church. Mike was proud to be a U.S. Marine and wear the Gold Wings of a Marine Aviator. This morning we honor a gallant life of service from one of our Nation's best and brightest. Captain Quin's awards include the Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal and the Global War on Terror Service Medal.

These four exceptional American warriors and patriots remind us that it isn't how long we live, but how we live. With this monument, we commit the valor of these four men to immortality. Fifty or a hundred years from now on another cool October morning, people will stop and read the names of:

Sergeant Scott Kirkpatrick

Specialist Stephan Mace

Specialist Douglas Green

Captain Michael Quin

And their Legend will live on . . .

Thank You and God Bless America.

HONORING RONA RAMON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2012

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Rona Ramon, a teacher, healer, mother, friend and partner. Originally from Tel-Aviv, Rona served as a medic in a parachute unit with the Israeli army before earning a Bachelor's Degree in Physical Education at Wingate Institute and becoming a respected teacher. In 1986, Rona married Ilan Roman, an Israeli fighter pilot who later became Israel's first astronaut.

Logging over 4,000 flight hours over his 14-year career, Ilan was a highly respected Colonel in the Israeli Air Force. In 1981, he was the youngest pilot flying in Operation Opera, the successful Israeli mission to destroy a nuclear reactor being constructed in Iraq. Ilan continued to dedicate his life to science as a Payload Specialist astronaut by using a multi-spectral camera to record and study desert dust among other research projects. His commitment to the advancement of science has positively impacted the people of Israel, the